

## AIRPORT COMMISSION

### MINUTES

**Wednesday September 3, 2025  
In Person and Via Teleconference**

In Person: Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge, Mr. Bales, Mr. Cantwell, Judge Clarke (Ret), Mr. Fitzgerald, Ms. Fowler, Comptroller Baringer, Mr. King, Mr. Lents, Dr. Moore, Ms. Osborn and Ms. Ratcliffe

Via Conference: Mr. Bowman, Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Kling

Members Absent: President Green

Airport Staff: Mr. Beckmann, Ms. Bolden, Ms. Daniels, Ms. Jones, Mr. Jungk, Mr. Kulinsky, Ms. Lyles-Wiggins, Chief Richenberger, Ms. Ruth, Mr. Strong and Ms. Yancey

Legal Staff: Mr. Chavarria, Mr. Henderson and Ms. Yoffie

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm

#### **1. MINUTES**

- A. Approval was requested for the minutes of the August 6, 2025 Regular Airport Commission Meeting.

A motion for approval was made by Alderman Cohn and seconded by Ms. Ratcliffe. Minor typographical errors were noted and corrected. A voice vote was conducted, and the motion was approved.

#### **2. PROPERTIES**

- A. Approval was requested for Airport Insurance Proposals marketed by Marsh USA, the Airport's insurance broker. Proposals include: Airport Liability, Business Auto, Inland Marine/Large Value Equipment, Public Officials & Employment Practices Liability, Property Stand Alone Terrorism, Parametric, and Fine Arts Permanent and Temporary.

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Lents and seconded by Alderman Cohn. Ms. Ruth presented the item. Mr. Lents asked whether the terrorism coverage was the same coverage as the airport previously had.. Ms. Ruth answered that the previous policy was

under TRIA (Terrorism Risk Insurance Act). This type of coverage provides \$700 million of coverage but requires \$200 million worth of damage before it pays out. No TRIA claim has been paid out in years. The new policy, provides less coverage but carries a deductible of only \$25,000. It is gaining popularity among universities and airports in recent years. One key advantage of the current policy is that it does not require a terrorism event to be officially certified by the U.S. federal government in order for coverage to be activated. With no further questions or discussion, a voice vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Cantwell abstaining.

### **3. OPERATIONS**

- A. Approval was requested for a Service Agreement for Airside Snow Removal Services with Aero Snow Removal LLC. The term of this Service Agreement is for three (3) years, beginning October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028.

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Lents and seconded Ms. Ratcliffe. Mr. Kulinsky presented the item. Mr. Lents asked what the NTE was on this contract. Mr. Kulinsky answered \$450,000.

Ms. Ratcliffe asked whether the city owns the equipment. Director Hamm-Niebruegge clarified that the city owns the brooms and plows, but does not own the equipment specifically used for removing the piled snow. Ms. Fowler then asked if AERO had previously provided all snow removal services. Mr. Kulinsky responded that AERO had been the sole provider, and still serves as a backup for landside snow removal, but the airport decided to divide the service in order to engage a vendor specializing in landside snow removal. He further explained that while the NTE has increased, the anticipated spending and the budget remains unchanged for this service. Last snow season the Airport exceeded its budgeted NTE and while the Airport was able to move money around to cover the shortfall there is no guarantee that it will be able to do so in the future so the NTE was increased in order to cover that contingency. With no further questions or discussion, a voice vote was taken, the motion carried unanimously.

- B. Approval was requested for a Service Agreement for Landside Snow Removal Services with BSR Lambert, Inc. The term of this Service Agreement is for three (3) years, beginning October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028.

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Lents and seconded by Ms. Ratcliffe. Mr. Kulinsky presented the item. There being no questions or discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

### **4. ADMINISTRATION**

- A. Approval was requested of the proposed rules for the governance of the commission required pursuant to Ordinance 71994. The proposed rules would govern how commission business is conducted, the conduct of commissioners on the commission, and the time and place of commission meetings.

Mr. Strong introduced the agenda item, Alderman Cohn expressed concern regarding the

requirement of a two-thirds vote in order to change the rules, noting that two-thirds is a significant threshold. He suggested that the commission's rules should be reviewed and approved annually. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the proposed rules will be altered to allow for review and reauthorization every three years.

Comptroller Baringer raised a concern regarding virtual voting, emphasizing the importance of having participants' faces visible during Zoom votes to ensure transparency and accountability.

The commission agreed to defer the vote on the proposed rules to the next meeting to allow for further consideration.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

One of the Commissioners, Judge Clarke (Ret), is being featured in an exhibit at the St. Louis Law Library.

Checkpoint numbers have surpassed 2019 by 80,200. As of July, year-to-date performance is still down approximately 5% compared to last year. August data has not yet been received.

Lufthansa will go to five weekly flights. This is a seasonal increase, from June through December, with plans to revert to three weekly flights starting in January. Delta is set to launch service to JFK beginning Monday, September 8, 2025. This is the first route back to JFK in a decade.

Southwest Airlines has implemented schedule changes focused on its four key connecting hubs: St. Louis, Midway, Denver, and Nashville. Additional changes include updates to seat assignments and baggage fee structures.

Southwest reduced service from St. Louis to Oklahoma City, Little Rock, Des Moines, and Tulsa. These cuts are frustrating, but St. Louis only made up 20% of native traffic to those markets. New flights will be added to from St. Louis Lambert to Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Atlanta. We remain on the hunt for additional markets and look forward to increasing air service from St. Louis.

Mr. Fitzgerald inquired whether, given the current guidelines no longer allow us to require the inclusion of women-minority-owned business participation in executive summaries, we could instead highlight small business involvement.

Ms. Hamm-Niebruegge stated that we are working on launching a new small business enterprise program, while continuing to track M/WBE participation, though it is no longer mandated by contract as goals. Ms. Lyles-Wiggins added revised language was submitted to the FAA last month regarding our proposed small business enterprise program.


## **6. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday October 1, 2025

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Bales and seconded by Ms. Fowler. A voice vote was conducted, and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

**The foregoing was approved by the Airport Commission at its October 1, 2025 meeting.**

  
Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge Date 10/1/25  
Chairperson